

Amendments to the Claims:

The following listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

1. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell comprising:
an electrolyte layer made from a solid oxide;
a catalytic metal part including a catalytic metal for accelerating a reaction of a reaction active material supplied to the fuel cell during generation of electricity in the fuel cell, wherein the catalytic metal is a noble metal; and
a decomposition reaction suppress part disposed between the electrolytic layer and the catalytic metal part for suppressing a decomposition reaction of the solid oxide due to the catalytic metal, wherein the decomposition reaction suppress part has ion conductivity for allowing ions of a same type of conductivity to pass through the electrolyte layer.
2. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 1, wherein
the decomposition reaction suppress part is constructed with a decomposition-resistant material that has lower decomposition reactivity for decomposing due to the catalytic metal than the solid oxide.
3. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 2, wherein
the decomposition reaction suppress part is formed in a layer form for covering the electrolyte layer surface with the decomposition-resistant material, and
the catalytic metal part is disposed on the decomposition reaction suppress part.
4. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 2, wherein
the catalytic metal part is formed with catalytic metal dispersed in a support formation in a granular state on the electrolyte layer, and

the decomposition reaction suppress part is formed with the decomposition-resistant material for covering a part of a granular surface of the catalytic metal such as to be interposed between grains of the catalytic metal and the electrolytic layer.

5. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 1, wherein

the decomposition reaction suppress part is formed with a low decomposition material that has lower activity for decomposing the solid oxide than the catalytic metal.

6. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 5, wherein the low decomposition material also has conductivity.

7. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 1 ~~or claim 6~~, wherein

the decomposition reaction suppress part is formed in a layer form to cover the electrolyte layer surface with the low decomposition material, and

the catalytic metal part is disposed on the decomposition reaction suppress part.

8. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 1 ~~or claim 6~~, wherein

the catalytic metal part is formed with catalytic metal dispersed in a support formation in a granular form on the electrolyte layer, and

the decomposition reaction suppress part is formed with the low decomposition material for covering a part of a grain surface of the catalytic metal such as to be interposed between grains of the catalytic metal and the electrolyte layer.

9. (Previously Presented) A fuel cell comprising:

a catalytic metal part including a catalytic metal for accelerating a reaction of a reaction active material supplied to the fuel cell during the production of electricity in the fuel cell, wherein the catalytic metal is a noble metal; and

an electrolyte layer formed with a solid oxide, disposed adjacent to the catalytic metal part, and having a decomposition reaction suppress part for suppressing a decomposition reaction of the solid oxide due to the catalytic metal.

10. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 9, wherein the decomposition reaction suppress part is a region that is formed near a surface on a side of the electrolyte layer adjacent to the catalytic metal part, and that has a lower grain boundary density of the solid oxide other than the regions in the electrolyte layer.

11. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 9, wherein the decomposition reaction suppress part is a region that is formed near a surface on a side of the electrolyte layer adjacent to the catalytic metal part, and the solid oxide has lower decomposition reactivity for decomposition due to the catalytic metal than other regions in the electrolyte layer.

12. (Original) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 11, wherein the solid oxide for forming the decomposition reaction suppress part has lower ion conductivity than the solid oxide for forming the other regions.

13. (Currently Amended) A fuel cell in accordance with ~~any one of claims 1-3, 5-7, and 9-12~~claim 1, wherein

the solid oxide has proton conductivity,
the catalytic metal is a hydrogen permeable metal, and
the catalytic metal part is a fine hydrogen permeable metal layer for covering the decomposition reaction suppress part disposed on the electrolyte layer.

14. (New) A fuel cell in accordance with claim 9, wherein the solid oxide has proton conductivity,
the catalytic metal is a hydrogen permeable metal, and

the catalytic metal part is a fine hydrogen permeable metal layer for covering the decomposition reaction suppress part disposed on the electrolyte layer.